

# East Bay Labor Journal

The Only Official Newspaper of Org

VOLUME 48, NUMBER 1

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, JANUARY 4, 1974

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ENTS

Wishing us all a much  
better New Year

## Labor renews stand for free transit, wants gas rationing

The idea of fare-free public transit had won support from the Alameda County Central Labor Council before the "energy crisis," but the recent pressure to save gasoline has sparked renewed interest in the proposition.

The council passed a resolution on Dec. 17 reaffirming its stand in favor of eliminating fares altogether "as a means of reducing pollution and conserving natural resources," and in view of the fact that "working men and women are faced with additional financial burdens in the cost of gasoline and parking fees brought about by the poor management of the Federal Administration."

The reference to parking fees in that "whereas" was occasioned by the scheduled imposition of new regulations by the Environmental Protection Agency, which would have required employers to charge workers for previously free parking in company-controlled space, and to pay them extra to use public transit. Implementation of that regulation was later postponed.

The council also declared that "a system of gas rationing is the only fair means of distributing gasoline to those who need it,"

and called on the federal government to "institute rationing and price control of gasoline and petroleum products so as to insure a continued supply of fuel at a cost that workers can afford."

The resolution was sent to congressmen from the area, to U.S. senators from California and to the Board of Supervisors of Alameda county.

Ed Cordeiro, president of Amalgamated Transit Union Div. 192, was appointed chairman of a committee to develop support for the idea of free public transportation.

The money to operate such a system would have to come from the federal government, Cordeiro said. "It should be a municipal service like the fire department. Considering all the benefits, free public transit de-

serves government aid just as much as that being given now to airlines, auto transportation, ships and railroads and farming and other things."

Cordeiro said that with the introduction of "dial-a-ride" service to the customer's door, about to be tested in some areas by AC Transit, public transit can be made even more convenient than city travel by private car. Free buses would also help to spread out the economic sacrifices required by any shortage of energy, he said.

The 1973 AFL-CIO convention supported ATU in calling on the federal Department of Transportation to undertake "a demonstration project to determine the feasibility of, and suitable financing for, a permanent system of fare-free operation of local transit."

## Labor choosing 'unionist of year,' sets dinner

Nominations are now being considered for the outstanding man or woman to be honored at the Fifth Annual "Unionist of the Year" Dinner, which will be held on Friday, March 8.

The title has been changed in accordance with the times: it used to be called "Man of the Year." In any case, the honoree will be chosen by the executive boards of the Alameda County Central Labor Council and the Building and Construction Trades Council. The CLC board discussed the matter this morning, Jan. 4, but nominations will

be accepted by the Building Trades until that board meets on Tuesday morning, Jan. 8. The committee for the affair also includes representatives from the Teamsters, I.L.W.U. and the AFL-CIO office.

The \$25 a plate dinner will be held at Goodman's on Jack London Square, in Oakland, and will be limited to labor and labor attorneys. "This will be strictly labor's event and employers or others outside the labor movement will not be invited," the committee announced.

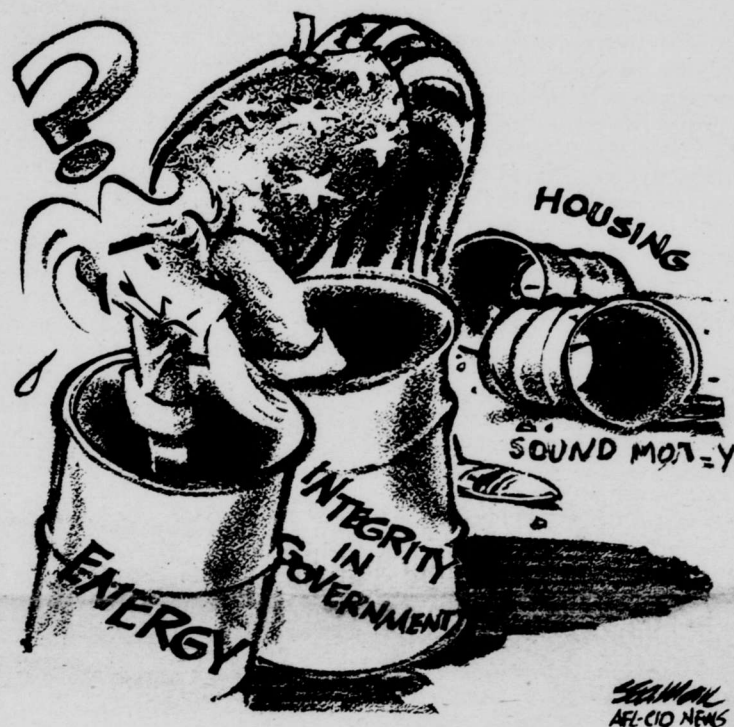
## Negotiated child care? CLC looking into it

The possibilities of negotiating day care for children as a contract benefit, especially for locals covering many women workers, will be explored by a new committee of the Alameda County Central Labor Council.

Headed by Carl Jaramillo, CLC community services director, the committee will also encourage sound local, state and national legislation to provide more child care for workers.

Other members of the committee are David Aroner, C.D. Parker and Florence Graham.

The CLC board acted after hearing Nina Tanner, director of the 24 Hour Oakland Parent-Teacher Children Center describe the vast need for good child care facilities for children of the "working poor." She said that Congressman Fortney Stark and Ronald Dellums and Assemblyman Bill Lockyer had agreed to develop appropriate legislation.



## Reaching Bottom

## Rank and file carpenters shut down jobs in protest

Rank and file carpenters by the thousands refused to work on big jobs by members of Associated General Contractors, and of some big homebuilders last week, and the completely unofficial walk-out seemed to be spreading as the Labor Journal neared its early holiday deadline.

It was a touchy situation. Union leaders were unable to participate, as local unions and the District Council of Carpenters were under a stiff injunction to refrain from economic action. In a way, union representatives had to sympathize with the plight of men for whom they had negotiated a 65 cents wage and who were being paid, at the most, 15 cents of that. (AGC was not paying any part of the raise.) Some of the same representatives, however, were upset that members had taken the situation into their own hands, when it

was impossible to pay strike benefits or get official support from other crafts. Several thousand other workers were laid off when jobs were shut down, the press reported.

AGC claimed that the federal Construction Industry Stabilization Committee (CISC) would not allow its members to pay the increase. Rank and file spokesmen asserted, however, that the contract negotiated in July 1971 was approved by CISC in September 1971, and that the "whole thing" was approved again in 1972.

Victor Van Bourg, attorney for the unions, confirmed that. He said CISC chairman Rothman had admitted to him that CISC had never disapproved of the contract.

Don Hodge, a member of Carpenters 642, told the Labor Journal that "several" contrac-

tors are paying the full 65 cents increase now. As an example, he cited Maher Construction Company of Vallejo, which was not only observing the 1971 agreement, but had also sent Local 642 a letter saying it will continue to pay the full 65 cents, and will see that anyone working for them in the area since June will get retroactive payment back to that time.

Hodge called to say he was soliciting contributions to help rank and file demonstrators who are in financial distress. They can be addressed to him at P.O. Box 894, El Sobrante, Ca. 94803.

The District Council of Carpenters, meanwhile, turned to the federal courts for a resolution of the wage dispute. Its lawsuit challenges the constitutionality of CISC's attempting to alter a contract negotiated by unions and managements.



# State AFL-CIO maps 1974 legislative program

The California AFL-CIO will press for a major boost in unemployment insurance benefits during the 1974 legislative session to protect California workers being laid off by the snow-balling energy crisis and will reintroduce a number of measures vetoed during the 1973 session, including those calling for collective bargaining rights for teachers and unemployment insurance for farm workers.

John F. Henning, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation which represents the state's 1.6 million AFL-CIO union members, said the Federation would introduce legislation calling for an increase

in the present \$90 maximum unemployment insurance benefit to \$120 computed in steps to assure workers two-thirds of their lost wages.

The State AFL-CIO will also seek legislation to increase the maximum duration of unemployment insurance benefits from 26 weeks to a uniform 39 weeks, without any special triggering mechanism for the additional 13 weeks. It will also call for legislation to increase the unemployment insurance tax rate in an amount sufficient to fund the increased benefits.

Henning said the California AFL-CIO will also reintroduce measures vetoed during the 1973 session which would include:



WORKER TESTIFIES for \$3 minimum wage at the first night meeting held by the California Industrial Welfare Commission. Later the commission voted for a \$2 minimum.

1. Repeal of the Stull Act provision on teacher evaluation;
2. Provide collective bargaining rights for teachers;
3. Require firms advertising that they do business in Spanish to provide contracts in Spanish as well as English;
4. Liberalize workmen's compensation coverage for domestics and gardeners;
5. Provide workmen's compensation coverage for news vendors;
6. Assure free choice of physicians in workmen's compensation cases; and
7. Provide unemployment insurance for farm workers.

The Federation will also introduce new measures for:

- Secret ballot elections for farm workers;
- A comprehensive energy use bill;
- Repeal of the so-called "domestic quit" disqualification from unemployment insurance coverage. This measure is aimed at eliminating a discriminatory provision of the existing unemployment insurance regulations that disqualifies a woman from unemployment insurance coverage if she quits her job because her husband is transferred from say Bakersfield to San Francisco.

## First night hearing held on minimum wage

As the result of work by Union Women's Alliance to Gain Equality, the Industrial Welfare Commission held its first night hearing ever, on November 30 in San Francisco. The precedent-setting night hearing enabled many working people who can't attend during the day to be present and give testimony.

Members of local unions, including the American Federation of Teachers Local 1423, the Clerical and Miscellaneous Workers of the University of California at Berkeley Local 1695, the Communication Workers of America, the International Longshore and Warehousemen's Union, the Office and Professional Employees Local 29, the San Francisco Household Workers and the California Homemakers Association from Sacramento, braved the bad weather to speak out against the proposed minimum.

A management spokesman for the San Francisco Fashion Industry said that the 35 cents an

hour increase would only add to spiraling inflation. Labor speakers showed that although the minimum wage has not been reviewed in almost 6 years, food costs alone have risen 22% in the past year. All denounced the proposed minimum as inadequate for anyone to live on.

It was also pointed out, that many of the people who are making the minimum wage are women, who are heads of households, and have children to support. Members of Union W.A.G.E., while protesting the \$2 rate, once again demanded that the Commission vote for a \$3 an hour minimum wage.

On December 6 the Commission, as expected, ruled to raise the minimum wage to \$2 an hour. Nevertheless, labor leaders felt that the good turnout at the night hearing and the solidarity of so many different unions against the \$2 minimum wage could someday make a \$3 an hour minimum wage a reality.

—Grace Ann Dunphy  
for Union W.A.G.E.

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# State fed endorses labor's hospital in Contra Costa

Convinced that quality medical care can be provided at a lower cost, labor has established a new health center in Martinez, recently opened and already serving thousands of union members under a Blue Cross and major medical plan. Last month it won the endorsement of the Executive Council of the California Federation of Labor.

The new 227 room hospital known as the Martinez Health Center was developed by the Contra Costa Labor Health and Welfare Council under leadership of its secretary-treasurer, Louis H. Martin, with the sponsorship of the Contra Costa County Central Labor and Building and Construction Councils. It cost \$6 million.

Situated on John Muir Road near the Veterans Administration Hospital (and sharing some of the V.A. hospital's sophisticated equipment), the new health center combines several sorts of facilities. These include a general hospital, a convalescent hospital, a child care center for staff and patients, and a multiphasic health testing facility. All at reduced rates to consumers.

The cost of acute care at MHC is \$70 a day and is expected to be brought down, despite the soaring

rise in prices generally.

Acute care rates at other bay area hospitals run about \$95 per day. The extended care rate at MHC is \$35 a day. Other general hospitals have no extended care rate.

This is important because most acute care patients in a general hospital need such care for a period of about two to 10 days but the convalescent period may last much longer. At MHC they can simply be moved into the lower cost section.

Each room is equipped with a nurse-call system providing 24-hour two-way communication between the patient and the nurse.

The combination facilities were planned when the old Martinez Community Hospital was condemned by the state. Consolidation with extended care facilities made it possible to avoid duplication of kitchen, dining room, laundry and computerized inventory control.

Art Carter, secretary-treasurer of the Contra Costa County Central Labor Council and a member of the hospital's board of directors, said he hopes the Martinez Health Center will become THE hospital for union members in the county.



CHILD CARE IS A SPECIAL FEATURE of the Martinez Health Center, built with sponsorship of Contra Costa labor. Pictured with some of the children there are (from left) Louis H. Martin, Secretary-treasurer of the Contra Costa Labor Health and Welfare Council; Lou H. Thomas, Secretary-treasurer of the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council; Art Carter, Secretary-treasurer of the Contra Costa County Central Labor Council; and John F. Henning, Executive Secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO. The new health facility recently won the endorsement of the Executive Council of the California Labor Federation.

## East Bay Labor Journal

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# Chips and Chatter

Carpenters 36

by Gunnar Benonys

Carpenters in the 46 counties are still engaged in a wage dispute caused by the duplicity of the Nixon appointed Construction Industry Stabilization Committee which had previously approved our three year contract in its entirety and then withdrew its approval for the third and last year.

Membership anger is obviously displayed by the continuing job walk-offs.

Further court hearings are scheduled for this week. Keep in touch with your local union office for any of the latest developments.

Congratulations to the following Brothers who completed their basic apprenticeship and

are now Journeymen; Jerry Burton, Jerry D. Christine, Claude D. Joyner, Kenneth J. Murray, Jimmie Nez and John Reimann.

Brothers, just a reminder, on January 17th a special called meeting will be held for the election of four delegates to attend the State Carpenters Council Convention. At this crucial time, I urge you to attend as many union meetings as you can. Be informed! Take part in the many decisions that affect you in your daily union operations while you are earning your living.

"Since we're Brothers, let's be friends."

See you good Brothers at the next meeting, yes?



SANTA'S HELPER is strictly union — shop steward button and all — in the holiday season display in the lobby of the Carpenters headquarters building in Washington.

## Richmond Carpenters

By Bill and Charlie

The union's Christmas party for members and their wives was really nice, with about 300 persons attending. Among them were guests from other Carpenter locals, including Brother and Mrs. Gunnar Benonys, Bro. and Mrs. Eugene Anderson and Bro. and Mrs. Robert Griebel of Local 36; Bro. Russ Pool of Local 483; and Bro. and Mrs. Luther Curry of Local 1622.

We are only sorry that some of our members were having a hard time, either for economic reasons or because of illness.

J. Lawrence Lynch is still in intensive care at Kaiser Hospital Oakland, following the removal of a leg below the knee — a complication of diabetes. Up to early last week he had required 16 pints of blood. We're pulling for him.

Brother Lynch's situation reminds us that we are awfully low

on blood and need donations. Anyone who contributes and brings or mails in a receipt showing a pint credited to the account of Carpenters Local 642 will be paid \$10. The mobile unit of the Alameda-Contra Costa Blood Bank will be stationed in Richmond next Monday evening, Jan. 7, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Machinists' Hall, 255-16th St., or call the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Assn., 654-5383, for an appointment in Oakland.

Others on the sick list are: Peter Phillips, in Richmond Hospital with a relapse of a previous illness; Charles Widick, recuperating at home in Napa after three operations; Bernard Barnes, in Kaiser Hospital, Vallejo, following a stroke.

The officers and staff of Local 642 hope they all recover soon and wish all members and their families a glad New Year.

## Watchmakers

by George F. Allen

Here we are at the close of another rapid-passing year, sometimes wondering if our efforts spent really accomplished all the purposes intended. Nonetheless, we can all be thankful for the labor movement through which we have realized so many benefits.

We are grateful for our Local 101's membership, its officers and board members, who have maintained an effective course of action this year past. Both of us in the office, Brother Harris Call and myself, wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas 1973 and a Happy New Year 1974.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The above column was accidentally left out of the December 21 issue.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Due to publication dates this column is being written before we know just what is in our future as to the energy crisis. "Gasoline or no gasoline that is the question."

Regardless of what we have to face up to in the New Year, even though you will receive this column after the year has started, we still wish to extend our New Year's greetings with good health and happiness to you and your family. We hope and pray that 1974 will be prosperous for all of us.

May the difficulties, trials, tribulations, and skulduggery of 1973 soon vanish, leaving as faint a scar as possible, so as not to interfere with the progress needed in our lives before us.

## Dental Technicians

by Leo Turner

A serious typographical error appeared in my column in the last issue of the Labor Journal. In referring to the final settlement of the Technicians' contract, the word "not" was substituted for the word "now." The second sentence should have read: "All the items covered in the 39 cents package can NOW be considered to be in effect, and retroactive to October 1, 1973."

## SEASON'S GREETINGS

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# OFFICIAL UNION NOTICES

## NEWS DEADLINE

The next issue of the East Bay Labor Journal will be published on January 18. ALL UNION COLUMNS AND NOTICES and other news must be in no later than FRIDAY, Jan. 11, 1 p.m. Phone 465-1600 with news.

## AFSCME 371 UC EMPLOYEES

Our next regular meeting will be on Jan. 12, at 2 p.m. in room 155 Kroeber Hall, preceded by the Ex-Board meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Joseph J. Santoro  
Secretary-treasurer

## AMALGAMATED CRAFTS

Regular meetings held first Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, Room H. Third Floor.

Vern Duarte, Financial  
Secretary

## AUTO-SHIP PAINTERS 1176

Auto, Marine & specialty Painters 1176 meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month in Room H, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, at 8 p.m.

Leslie K. Moore,  
Business Representative

## BARBERS 134

The regular January meeting and installation of 1974 officers will be held on January 17 at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland.

The resolution for the optional contract (working agreement) for hairdressers had its third reading and vote at our December meeting. The resolution was voted down.

**NOTICE!!!** January dues and assessments are \$12. This includes \$3 legislative assessment and \$1 for a new dues book. All dues books will be audited the first part of January, so please mail your January dues and assessments with your dues book on or before January 1, 1974. Your cooperation will be appreciated!

Jack M. Reed  
Secretary-Treasurer

## BARBERS 516

Regular meetings of Barbers Local 516 are held at 8 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday night of every month, at the Newark Square Barber Shop, 5600 Thornton Ave., Newark.

Al Doyle, Secretary

## CARPENTERS 36

Effective December 1, 1973 an assessment in the amount of \$1 has been levied for the Blood Bank.

REGULAR MEETINGS for Carpenters Local Union 36 are held the first and third Thursdays of each month at 8460 Enterprise Way, Oakland, California 94621, at 8 p.m.

HOURS of the Financial Secretary's office are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Friday the office closes at 1 a.m. Allen L. Linder,  
Recording Secretary.

## CARPENTERS 194 ALAMEDA

Carpenters Local 194 meets the first and third Monday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Veterans Memorial Building, 2201 Central Avenue, Alameda.

The meeting of January 21, 1974 will be a special called meeting for the purpose of nominating and electing one or two delegates to the California State Council of Carpenters to be held March 12 through March 15, 1974. Notice of the location will be mailed to your last known address. (Under the Constitution and Laws, Sec. 43, Paragraph I, the recording secretary MUST be notified of any change of address.)

We are now having a little trouble over our contract with both contractors and the Wage Stabilization Board. This requires your presence at the Union meetings.

As usual, refreshments will be offered those present, following each meeting.

A reminder: Blood Bank assessment #25 is now due.

Wm. "Bill" Lewis  
Recording Secretary

## CARPENTERS 642 RICHMOND

Regular membership meetings of Carpenters 642 are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, starting at 7:30 p.m., in the union hall, 3750 Dam Road, El Sobrante.

## CARPENTERS 1158 BERKELEY

A SPECIAL CALLED MEETING will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, January 3, 1974, at 1970 Chestnut St., Berkeley, to nominate and elect two delegates to the California State Council of Carpenters convention. The convention will be held March 12-15. Refreshments will be served upon adjournment.

Regular meeting of Carpenters Local 1158 are held at 8 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month, at 1970 Chestnut St. in Berkeley.

Nick Afdamo,  
Recording Secretary

## CARPENTERS 1622 HAYWARD

The finance office of Carpenters 1622 is open Mondays, Tuesday and Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays ONLY, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

All members who make application for normal or disability PENSION should contact the office of the financial secretary and check qualifications for reduced dues.

Regular meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. in the union hall, 1050 Mattox Rd., Hayward.

Delbert M. Bardwell,  
Financial Secretary

## GRAPHIC ARTS INT'L UNION LOCAL 3B (BOOKBINDERS)

The regular meeting of GAU 3B is held the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the union office, 943 Howard St., San Francisco. Office is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays; telephone 781-5573.

Ted Hirshberg,  
Recording Secretary

## IRON WORKERS 378

Our Regular Executive Board meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 8 p.m.

Stewards meetings also are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 8 p.m.

Our regular membership meeting is held on the 2nd Friday of each month, 8 p.m.

R. L. Zampa,  
Financial Secretary

## MILLMENS UNION 550

Regular membership meetings are held on the third Friday of each month, at 8 p.m., in the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Room 208, Oakland, California 94612.

A SPECIAL CALLED MEETING will be held preceding the regular meeting of January 18, 1974, for the purpose of nominating and electing four delegates to the California State Council of Carpenters Convention. The convention will be held March 12-15 in Los Angeles.

The officers and executive board members wish all members of Millmen 550 and their families a

Odus Howard  
Financial Secretary

## OAKLAND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES 257

The next regular meeting of the Oakland Unified School Employees Union, AFSCME Local 257, will be held on Saturday, January 12, 1974 in the Franklin School Auditorium, 915 Foothill Blvd., Oakland, at 10:30 a.m.



Installation of Officers and other items of importance to the local will be on the agenda. The executive board will meet at 8:30 a.m. Board members please note.

Harold Benner,  
Executive Secretary

## PAINTMAKERS 1975

The next regular membership meeting of Paintmakers Local Union 1975 will be held at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, January 15, at the Stationary Engineers Hall, 337 Valencia Street, San Francisco.

Kenneth Reeves  
Business Manager

## PLUMBERS & GAS FITTERS LOCAL 444

The next regular meeting of Plumbers and Gas Fitters Local Union No. 444 will be held Wednesday, January 23, 1974 in Hall "M," on the third floor of the Labor Temple Building, at 8 p.m.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. There will be a short business meeting.
2. A special order of business will be the installation of officers, followed by a buffet supper and refreshments. This is for members only (no ladies).

As you can see, this is a very important meeting — do make every effort to attend and become better acquainted with your officers.

George A. Hess,  
Business Manager and  
Financial Secretary-treasurer

## PRINTING SPECIALTIES 382

Meeting second Friday of the month at 8 p.m. Jenny Lind Hall, 2267 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland.

Ted E. Ahl, Secretary

## PRINTING SPECIALITIES 678

Meeting second Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. in Cannery Workers Hall, 492 C Street, Hayward, California.

William Prendebale, Secretary

## SHEET METAL WORKERS 216

Regular membership meetings for Local #216 are held on the third Wednesday of each month, Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street, Oakland, Third Floor at 8:00 p.m.

William D. Maddox,  
Business Manager

## STEAMFITTERS 342

The regular membership meeting of Steamfitters Local 342 is held on the first Thursday of every month at 8 p.m. in the union hall, 1030 Chary Court, Concord.

Doyle Williams,  
Business Manager

## STEELWORKERS 7616

Regular membership meetings are held the second Saturday of every month at 9 a.m. at Eagles' Hall, 1228 Thirty-sixth Avenue, Oakland, California  
Estella Stephens,  
Recording Secretary

## WATCHMAKERS 101

The regular meeting of Watchmakers Local 101 is held the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room, 785 Market Street, San Francisco.

George F. Allen,  
Business Manager

## NOTICE!

A SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of Carpenters 1622 will be held on January 10 to nominate and elect delegates to the State Council of Carpenters Convention, which will be held in Los Angeles, March 12-14.

Willis F. Voss,  
Recording Secretary

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"If you hadn't been so busy with taps and tapes, you might have heard them coming!"

## East Bay Labor Journal



FOUNDED APRIL 3, 1926 . . . Owned, controlled and published by Central Labor Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO, and Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO.

48th Year, Number 1

January 4, 1974

MARGARET T. MILLER Editor

2315 Valdez St., Room 211, Oakland Ca. 94612

Phone 465-1600

## Let C-O-L-C die

The federal "cost of living" machinery is causing more economic turmoil than stabilization.

Rank and file carpenters, for example, were not demonstrating so much against employers as against CISC, the Construction Industry Stabilization Committee. CISC twice approved a wage increase negotiated in 1972 and then, without ever rescinding that approval, suggested that employers might pay .15 cents of the .65 cents already written into a legal contract. This kind of incompetence and uncertainty is driving workers and their representatives up the walls.

Butchers in the Safeway and Lucky cutting plants were still on edge last week because some proposed improvements in their industrial working conditions were being checked off against the Cost of Living Council's 5.5% guideline for wage increases. And why shouldn't any chain store worker bound by the guidelines be restless when profits for the top 12 chain stores were more than 500% higher in the third quarter of 1973 than in the previous year?

Now gas pump prices are going up again. Whatever the excuse, the oil corporations will come out on top; Nixon's economics and his Watergate politics go hand in hand.

One of our Democratic senators from California was heard to predict that Congress will renew Nixon's "stabilization" authority beyond April 1, when it expires. Are the Democrats so unwilling to fight? Are working people really going to be left the bleeding victims of inflation and corruption and rank incompetence?

Justice is being obstructed in every direction. We beg our friends in Congress to press on with impeachment, and, meanwhile, to restrict Nixon's power to harm us. It is time to mount a fight against his wage control authority; let the Cost of Living Council die.

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Economic action sanctioned by  
Alameda County Central Labor Council



## Durkees strike ends in time for Christmas

The seven-week strike at the Durkees plant in Berkeley was settled just in time for workers to get back on the job before Christmas and collect holiday pay.

Representatives of Office and Professional Employees 29 and the Central Labor Council negotiated a 34 months contract. It will expire at the same time as that of the 100 ILWU warehousemen, whose support kept the plant closed. The 16 office workers maintained picket lines 24 hours a day.

Cash wage increases total \$1.17 per hour over the period, with 27 cents retroactive to August 1, 1973, 10 cents due February 1, 1974, 39 cents due August 1, 1974, and 41 cents in August 1975.

Sick leave improvements include a provision that such leave may be used for illness in the immediate family. There were also improvements in health and welfare and other contract language, according to Bruce Lockey, union representative.

## Butchers win strike, save key conditions

Retail Butchers got "everything they wanted" in the contract ending their three-week strike, union representatives reported. They ratified on the Friday before Christmas, barely in time to reopen Safeway and Lucky stores they had struck throughout Northern California, and other chains that had locked them out.

Actually, it was not a matter of the union asking for much, but of successfully resisting em-

ployer attempts to downgrade the contract. The three year pact provided economic gains within the 5.5% federal wage control guidelines, with wage increases amounting to 30.5 cents per hour in the first year, 33 cents in the second year, and 35 cents in the third year, plus a formula for cost-of-living increases.

(By comparison, the Wall Street Journal reported a few weeks ago that third quarter profits of 12 big food chains in 1973 were 529% higher than in the third quarter of 1972. Yes, 529%.)

The Food Employers Council had proposed eliminating the butcher on duty at stores, and doing away with the guaranteed 8-hour day. It sought to revise a "new methods" clause and a schedule of what meats could be pre-cut and pre-wrapped outside of the store. The union was able to hold its ground on all these issues, according to E. Allen Coe, secretary-treasurer of Butchers Local 120.

Positive gains included a 10 cents per hour increase in company pension contributions and maintenance of health and welfare benefits regardless of increasing health plan rates. In an industry in which workers are shifting from store to cutting plant, greater "portability" of seniority rights for vacation purposes was also considered to be important.

## No UC games on struck KRE

Officials in charge of arranging broadcasts of University of California athletic events are cooperating with announcers striking Radio KRE in Berkeley, according to the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, AFL-CIO.

Basketball games with Loyola and the University of Seattle were taken off KRE just before Christmas, and AFTRA said "the University has agreed to continue the blackout of KRE coverage of U.C. games during the strike."

The announcers and their supporters among free lance news reporters were still picketing last week — the twelfth week of the strike. Several sponsors had withdrawn advertising, AFTRA said.

KRE is on the "We do not patronize" list of the Central Labor Council.

## CLC endorses conference on health, safety

A conference to develop educational programs for labor in occupational safety and health, to be held at Asilomar on Jan. 17-18, has been endorsed by the Alameda County Central Labor Council.

Carl Jaramillo, CLC community services director, will attend.

Organized by the Center for Health Studies, Oakland, the conference is designed to involve union people in developing "study-strategies" and bargaining programs in their own industries, familiarity with how to use state and federal health and safety (OSHA) laws.

An evening session will be devoted to "Labor and the So-called Energy Crisis" and the effects that a shortage of fuel, if genuine, would have on the health and safety of working people.

Advance registration is required, at \$25 each. Additional information can be obtained from the Center for Health Studies, 832-4596.

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## Transit union elects Hadden

Lloyd L. Hadden was elected financial secretary-treasurer of Amalgamated Transit Union Div. 192 in a special run-off election on Dec. 26. The vote was 440 for Hadden and 406 for George Adams, who had temporarily filled the post after being appointed by the executive board.

Hadden is a driver for AC Transit. He will serve a one-year term starting Jan. 7.

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